

SATURDAY, JULY 15, 1837.

THE BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS.

It is high time for the State of Ohio, to awaken to a knowledge of her own interest in relation to the public works now in progress in this section, or that, at least, if unwilling to investigate for herself, she should submit to hear a correct and impartial statement of the manner in which those works are carried on. The excitement produced by the conflict between Ohio and Michigan should have passed away, especially in Ohio, and with it should also vanish every description of local prejudice, and it is to be hoped that the people of Ohio may never be betrayed into a course which they shall afterwards regret by the ranking of any unfortunate bias, that they have imbibed in a period of high excitement. The state of Ohio has assumed to herself the responsibility of constructing that portion of the Wabash and Erie canal which comes within her limits, and it is both her duty and her interest to complete the same with all the despatch which is consistent with judicious economy. Indiana has already nearly finished her portion of the canal, and she is calling loudly upon Ohio to give her an outlet to the Lake through hers, and it is apparent to all that an immense profit will accrue to the State of Ohio, so soon as this important line of communication is completed. Under such a state of facts, and with the limited means which Ohio possesses from the sale of the canal lands, it is unquestionably the duty of the Board of Public Works to construct that part of the canal first which is obviously of the most consequence, and which will render those sections completed by Indiana available, at least for a portion of the season.

As we observed, a week or two since—A canal around the rapids would open Indiana to the Lake for a part of the year, and the completion of that part between the head of the rapids and the state line, would give them an uninterrupted communication with Lake Erie at all times. This is what is wanted by both Indiana and Ohio, and it is the obvious duty of the Board of Public Works, so to expend the money arising from the sale of the canal lands, as that it shall go the farthest in the opening of the necessary portions of the canal. But what has been done? It is true, that the canal around the rapids is now under contract, and it is equally true, that that above the rapids remains unlet, while, at the same time, fifteen miles of canal, stretching along the tops of our bluffs, and overlooking the navigable waters of the finest river of the North-west, is going on with all the energy which an abundance of pay can excite, and all to gratify the avarice of a set of public officers, who have determined to raise the value of their own town lots, at the expense of their virtue and their characters. Added to this, is the fact, that the money realized from the sale of the canal lands, is fast being expended, and that no more can be sold, on account of the scarcity of money, for a long time to come, and then for a very reduced price, the absolute necessity for economy in the public expenditures must be seen by every one who is unbiased in his investigations. And now that the bubble of speculation has burst, and in its explosion has annihilated those who inflated it, it is certain that the sixty sections of land between the foot of the rapids and the final termination of the canal as designated by the Board of Public Works, will not half pay the expenses of building a canal, which will cost, at the least calculation, three hundred thousand dollars. Thus, instead of gaining an excellent bargain by the possession of the lands below, the State will be saddled with a loss of several hundred thousand dollars, an expenditure which will materially retard the advancement of the useful and profitable part of the work above, and will have upon her hands as worse than a dead weight, a work which can never be other than a source of shame and sorrow so long as the earth retains a trace, or history a record of its existence. And as for those unfaithful public officers, who are now hugging themselves in the prospect of their ill-gotten wealth, let them beware. The time will come, when even the projects matured in privacy shall be exhibited, and when the springs and movements shall be laid bare before the eyes of an injured community.

The Hon. Daniel Webster paid a visit to the towns upon the Maumee river, on Thursday last. He arrived at Perrysburg in the steamboat Com. Perry, escorted by a large number of citizens of that place and Maumee City. At Perrysburg he was seated in an open carriage and in company with almost the entire population of the town, together with a large number of strangers, in carriages and on horseback, paid a visit to Fort Meigs. After viewing the fort and the adjacent country, he returned on board the steamboat and proceeded to Toledo, where he arrived about half past three P. M. Immediately on his arrival, an excellent cold collation was served up at the American, which was partaken of by a large concourse of people from Toledo and the other towns upon the river. After the cloth was removed, a few appropriate sentiments prepared for the occasion were drunk, in answer to one of which complimentary to himself, Mr. Webster rose and addressed the company in a speech of an

hour or more in length.

After expressing his thanks for the attention with which he had been treated, he proceeded to pay a compliment to the general appearance of the country, declared his agreeable surprise at finding it so different from what he had been induced to believe it to be, and concluded that portion of his remarks by hoping, that all the hopes of the friends of the country would be realized, and that all applications for assistance by its citizens would be treated with that attention which in justice they ought to receive.

From this he passed rapidly to the all absorbing topic, the present state of money affairs. In his usual luminous manner he gave a clear, candid and convincing statement of the causes which has produced the present destruction of confidence and stoppage of business, and closed by giving a succinct view of his own experience in relation to an United States bank.

It is understood, that Mr. Webster left Toledo for Cleveland on Friday morning.

ROAD MEETING AT FORT WAYNE.

The citizens of Fort Wayne have waked up to the subject of opening a road between that place and Defiance. A meeting has been held, and several spirited resolutions passed upon the subject. They have resolved to commence operations immediately, and to proceed to open the road as soon as possible, with a view to the establishment of a line of stages to run in connection with that established and now running between this place and Defiance. This road when completed, will supply the only link wanting to complete the chain of communication between the waters of Lake Erie, and the state of Indiana, and will undoubtedly so facilitate the means of travelling as to induce travellers visiting the northern parts of Indiana and Illinois, to take this route in preference to any now open. The people of the towns upon the Maumee river are all interested in this matter, and it is to be hoped, that they will all use their exertions to forward this very important work.

The people of Lucas county are now paying the first instalment of the endless tax, which was imposed upon them by the injudicious decision of the county seat commissioners. They are receiving a severe lesson upon the vaunted virtue, goodness and incorruptibility of a set of men whose shameless disregard for even the common decencies of appearance has rendered them a wonder and a by-word among all who have come to a knowledge of the circumstances. It is well, however, that the people suffer now. It is fortunate that the sufferings of the citizens of Lucas county, should excite a desire for the redress of grievances, before the time of invoking a remedy has gone by. And we are assured, from our own knowledge of the state of public feeling, as well as from information derived from the most authentic sources, that when the time for action does arrive, energetic and spirited action will be had.

The constituents of John Quincy Adams, having presented him with a walking cane, he has written them a long letter, in which the "experiment" is as severely handled as its best friends could well wish.

Miss Harriet Martineau, the English female political economist, having made the customary tour for the purpose, and having been be-feasted and be-toasted, the proper number of times, has returned to England, and published her book as usual. The article is said to be of the Trollope school, and rather good for the kind.

We have often heard the question:—Why do not the county officers of Lucas county, remove to the seat of justice, and hold their offices there?—asked by persons interested in the towns below. We would ask in return; Why are not the courts now holden at the county seat? Now it is really a natural place for such business as can be found, and looks wonderfully fine, with its acres of flags waving in front, and its brass band of bull frogs croaking in the rear.

SMALL NOTES.—The corporation in the city of Philadelphia have issued notes of the denominations of one dollar, fifty cents, twenty-five cents, and ten cents, redeemable in one year, and bearing interest of one per cent per annum.

The population of Boston, Mass. is over 80,000, making an increase of 20,000 in seven years.

CORONERS INQUEST.—An inquest was holden on Sunday, the 9th inst. at Waterville, upon the body of a man, which was found in the Maumee river at that place. The name of the deceased was discovered to be Henry Lamfear, and the verdict of the jury was, that the said Lamfear came to his death by some cause unknown. There were some marks of violence discovered upon the body of the deceased, which together with certain suspicious transactions that are said to have happened at a house of ill fame a distance above Waterville, would seem to justify a suspicion, that he met his death from violence.

THE BUFFALO BANKS.—The Chancellor of the state of New York, has decided that the Buffalo Banks have violated, and of course forfeited their charters. He has, however, dissolved the injunction in every case, and has permitted the Banks to resume business under certain specified regulations. Good! Stand up Messrs. Banks of Buffalo, and listen to what the Chancellor has got to say to you. Hem! Begin, Gentlemen! You have violated the provisions of your charters, therefore we consider you worthy of holding them; You have forfeited your privileges, therefore you are allowed to retain them; You have shown yourselves unworthy of public confidence, therefore confidence should be extended towards you; Infact, Gentlemen, you are a pack of rascally pick pockets, therefore go on and prosper.

A locomotive steam engine has been placed upon the Toledo and Adrian rail road. The Toledo papers say that it works exceedingly well, and some who have seen it in operation say that it does not do well at all. We do not know which to believe, but are inclined to think it does about middling.

☞ The County Seat has been underbrushed, preparatory to—don't know what.

A whig State Convention was holden at Columbus, on the 4th inst., and was attended by about a thousand delegates from different parts of the state, principally from the south and west. From the reports which we have received by the papers, and from persons who attended the meeting, we learn that the greatest unanimity prevailed among the members, and that the whole of the proceedings were conducted in a most satisfactory manner. No nomination was made of a candidate for the presidency, but a resolution expressing a preference for Gen. Harrison, as well as a willingness to submit to the decision of a National Convention was passed among several others. The time recommended for such National Convention was also suggested, to wit: the second Monday of June, 1838.

GOOD FOR TWO LEVIES AND A FIP.—Shin plasters are all the go in the cities, now-a-days. We have seen several specimens from the different places upon the Lake, and really, so far as appearance goes, they are as good as the copper-plate lies of more pretending institutions. We saw the Detroit corporation bills taken on board the steamboats in payment of fare, and felt quite in love with such a pretty, cheap kind of money. Indeed, we intend to try some experiments upon the currency ourselves, so soon as we can finish our wood cut of the county seat, to put at the head of the bills, melt up our old type for the purpose of converting it into the requisite specie basis (for we abhor a non-specie paying institution), and get our press strengthened, so that we can stamp our coin on our own hook. Some may think perhaps, that this is carrying the experiment rather too far, but really, in this age of experiments, it is well to be a little ahead of the spirit of the times.

A report has been in circulation for several days, that a man was drowned in the Maumee river, at Benton, about ten miles above this place, on Saturday evening, the 9th inst., in consequence of missing his way, while crossing the ford on horseback. A horse has been seen floating down the river since that time, but no person has been missed from the place, and no body has been found.

THE FLYING DUTCHMAN.—On Wednesday last, the schooner Western Trader, paid this place a visit. Our readers will remember that this is the vessel which passed the last winter amid the storms and ice of Lake Erie. We stepped on board for the purpose of determining whether she was really the phantom thing which many imagined her to be, and returned satisfied, that she was a substantial matter-of-fact concern, with an oaken frame, and staunch as a frigate, with the exception of a little scouring from the ice-bergs of Lake Erie.

The Misses Grinke of Charleston S. C. have been giving public lectures upon the subject of abolition in Boston. They are spoken of as highly accomplished ladies, and their addresses are said by the Boston Courier, to have been unusually able, for abolition productions.

There will be a Temperance Meeting at the session room in this city, on Thursday evening next, the 19th instant.

A new schooner, called the Ottawa, built for Robert A. Forsyth Esq. of this place, was launched at Oregon on Saturday last, and was towed up to the wharves of Forsyth & Hazard on Monday, by the steamboat Sun. Her burthen is one hundred and fifty-five tons, carpenter's measure.

On the 4th inst. a letting of contracts upon the line of the canal, was holden in this place, at which, we learn, that all the sections between here and Providence, as well as the cut from the main canal to the river at this place were let. It is understood that the work is to be commenced upon the side cut immediately, and that measures will be taken to expedite the works around the rapids as much as possible.

The steamboat Robert Fulton, Capt. Hart, has come up to this place regularly for the last two or three weeks, and it is believed that such arrangements are making as shall ensure her trips here weekly.

EMIGRATION.—A large number of persons, are, and have been moving weekly since the opening of spring, from Upper Canada to the western states.

The 21st and 22d of August next are the days appointed by the Michigan legislature, for holding a special election for the choice of a member to represent the state in the Congress of the United States.

A steam ship of 1800 tons is now building at London, and is to be ready in the spring to commence regular trips between that metropolis and New York.

So great is the tide of emigration which daily sweeps through our valley, that in addition to the steam packet Sun, which has run regularly between the mouth of the river and foot of the rapids, another steamboat has commenced regular daily trips between the two places.

The court of common pleas, Hon. David Higgins president, has been sitting the last week in Lucas, and the week before in Wood county.

The name of the town of Penn Yan, New York, was the result of a quarrel between the Pennsylvanians and Yankees, who settled it; which was amicably adjusted by adopting the name it now bears.

A schooner was launched in Toledo on Thursday the 13th inst.

COMMUNICATIONS.

For the Maumee Express.

Records of the 21st Anniversary of American Independence, found among the papers of one Honk Van Stoppelinger, now first presented to the public.

At sunrise the heavy peal of a six pounder, started the good citizens from their beds in the quiet little town of P., the boys flew to the field of blank cartridges, and not a slumberer was to be found among the inhabitants. The star spangled banner waved from the top of a lofty liberty pole, fluttering in the breeze the motto of the lamented Lawrence "don't give up the ship." It was the day of American independence; every heart was filled with gratitude; patriotism burned within the breasts of all, both young and old, male and female. Heaven herself seemed to smile and participate in the rejoicings of her children; not a cloud was seen upon her brow; all was pure and spotless as he who "was first in war, first in peace and first in the hearts of his countrymen." There is nothing in this wide world that is calculated to kindle in the bosom of an American, feeling so pure and noble, as the recurrences that are associated with the day that gave freedom to his country. Every breeze seems to whisper in his ear the name of Washington; and the sound of every gun as it echoes in the distance, reminds him of Lexington, Bunker Hill, Old Ti. and a thousand other places where the blood of the patriot flowed in the glorious cause of liberty.

Then think it not strange gentle reader, that the citizens of P. should feel an interest in the day of American independence. After breakfast the good people might have been seen with their faces lighted up with a smile of pleasure, and their external appearance exhibiting the "bib and tucker" of their wardrobes. At ten o'clock the procession was formed, and in a slow but regular step they marched to the church, keeping time with the music that preceded them.

In a few minutes all was still within the mansion of God; not a breath disturbed the silence that reigned beneath its consecrated walls. The gentle breeze as it softly stole through the crowd, playfully stirring the ringlets of some fair creature, like a mischievous child, who endeavors to make one smile, when they are screwing up the risibilities of their features to the sticking point in order to look very serious on a very serious occasion. The "man in black" arose, and in a rich and melodious voice addressed the throne of grace. What an opportunity is here presented to acknowledge the goodness of the creator, his unbounded love towards the children of men, in "leaving this great people prosperous and happy." Old hundred, or some other old tune, I do not remem-

ber exactly what, was sung, and then arose the orator. He surveyed the vast concourse of people that were assembled beneath him, to hear the words of wisdom fall from his lips with an air of triumph. The subject seemed too great for his mind, and like a boiler overcharged with too great a pressure of steam, so that the safety valve is raised in order to let a portion of it escape, the mouth of the orator suddenly became distended, and he spoke in the manner following, to wit:

Friends, and fellow citizens,—it makes my heart beat like a lamb's tail in fly time, to see so many of you here. I see some that have come forty miles, some twenty, some ten, and a great many that live right here in town, and will convince you all before I get through that this is glory enough for one day.—You have come to hear me tell, I suppose about the blood that was spilt on Bunker Hill. Well, now I consider that to be the greatest quantity of blood that has been spilt since Columbus first discovered New York, unless it was at the time of the great jubilee at the capitol of our state, when they killed the great ox. But fellow citizens, I do not wish to have you understand that I would in the least manner insinuate that the two cases are at all parallel. No, far from it, one was spilt in the cause that tried men's souls, and the other was just barely spilt for the sake of having a fiddle, or in other words, the last was spilt on the strength of what the first was spilt for.

When I got up this morning I went straightway to the barn to kill the old rooster for dinner, as you know it's Independence to day, I thought I would have something a little extra, and as I threw him down near the kitchen door my wife hopped up and says she, "that puts me in mind of them pesky British," and now, says she, "I wish you would think to say something about general Washington, for that red rooster makes me think about them tarnel red coats, and how transcendently the General licked them down at Cape Cod;" and I really believe that if it had not been for Sukey, I should have forgotten all about the General, but I can assure you that it gives me much pleasure in having an opportunity of doing justice to a great man. I consider that Gen. Washington was the tallest pigeon in the coop, or to use a more polite expression, he was the tallest coon out, and the way he put it to the British was a caution, he dropped them like so many hot potatoes.—That revolutionary feting was considerably glorious kind of business considering who fit the battles, and what they had to fight with; and what kind of clothes they had to wear, and considering they had to go bare foot most all the time, and the skin on the bottoms of their feet stuck to the snow crust so that the British might track them, as easy as an old hunter could track a deer after a bullet has let day light into his carcass; I say after all these things I don't wonder that the people crack up the revolutionary war, as I sometimes crack up my Sukey, when I feel in the right kind of a humor. My wife, says she, and she's a knowing critter, I think all the world of her—well, as I was saying, says she "Jethro," (that's my name, I suppose you all know,) says she, "Jethro, between you and I, and the bed post, (that is, when you hant got me tied to it.) I have been thinking which had the best kind of grit, Gen. Warren, or old Put, but," says she, "I think old Put was a leetle of the rankest growth, or he never would ventured into that wolf den," says she, "that takes the rag off the bush a leetle the cleanest of any thing I ever heard of in my life, unless it was the time that Crockett slipped down that holier tree among them young cubs, but," says she, "that battle at New Orleans warnt slow, and I think Old Hickory got to come in for a little share of the glory, though he didn't fight in the old revolutionary war, he's a screamer I tell you, in fighting British or Americans; only see how transcendently he put it to Nick Biddle; but there's Dick Johnson I do not like him no how, he's for putting Old Hickory's theory into practice, he's too fond of yellow boys, and I don't believe in crossing blood no how you can fix it, it makes me think of that squaw that was here yesterday. You know," says she, "that spruce dandified looking missionary, Mr. Predisposition, or some such name they called him, well, when he first came on here, he stepped into Dick Bradshaw's store, and that squaw that I was speaking of, had that little boy that was with her, sitting on the counter, he was quite small then, so the missionary thought he must have something to say to her of course, as he has come out to beathenize the savages, and said he, "madam, you have a very pretty child there," "yes," says she, "berry putty, part squaw, and part missionary," "and every time I think of Dick Johnson, I think of 'part squaw, and part missionary,' only I think there was a pair of curling irons thrown in somewhere." These are my wife's ideas on the subject, I wish to have you understand so you will not of course charge me with having committed myself on political matters, for I have not yet made up my mind whether Dick Johnson killed Tecumseh, or whether Tecumseh killed Dick, but I suppose that is no matter now, for Dick has the honor of it, and any thing I can say on the

subject went alter it no how. I do not intend to keep you here long, and I see by the twig of Sukeys eye that it is most time to stop, for she charged me in particular when I left home, not to extemporize longer than twelve o'clock, as the old rooster would be done at that time, & so for fear that he will burn, I will stop here, yes, fellow citizens, right here, I speak it with emphasis, right here on the spot.

FOREIGN NEWS.

FROM THE WEST INDIES.—We have a file of the Bridgetown Barbadian to the 1st instant. The latest paper congratulates its country friends upon the favorable state of the weather which has enabled them to plant largely for the corn crop; and reminds them that they have had a glorious season since the first of January for making sugar. About 1800 hogsheds have been shipped to Great Britain since the 7th of February.

Sir William Colebrooke had arrived at Antigua, to assume his functions as commander-in-chief of the Leeward Islands.

Sir. Evan McGregor had sent a supply of water to the inhabitants of Antigua who were suffering from want thereof, for the which votes of thanks were duly tendered and published—although by some unaccountable blander, the water was not received.

Information has been received at Nassau, of the arrival of a Hamburg barque, from Havana, with 98 negroes on board. They were taken on board of a Spanish slaver, by the British ship Vestal, and carried to Havana, where the Spanish authorities would not allow them to be landed; the barque was accordingly chartered, by the British commander, to take them to New Providence.

There was no small pox at Dominica. At St. Kitt's it was subsiding. At St. George's, Basseterre, one thousand two hundred and seventy-four persons had been attacked, of whom fifty had died.—N. Y. Com. Adv.

DOMESTIC NEWS.

WELLAND CANAL.—The St. Catharine's Journal, U. Canada, of the 8th inst., has the following remarks with the list of vessels that passed the Welland canal between the 1st and the 8th of June.

Welland Canal.—It is highly gratifying to us, to be enabled to announce to those interested, and to the public generally, that this great work continues in the best order. We understand that the masters of vessels navigating the canal are much pleased with the present state of the works, and find no obstruction whatever. Several small bars were taken out last winter and spring; and, consequently, vessels carrying eight hundred barrels of pork, pass easily throughout without lightening.

DUTY OF POSTMASTERS.—The following is the instructions of the Post-master General.

"In every instance in which newspapers that come to your office, are not taken by the person to whom they are sent, you will give immediate notice of it to the publisher, adding the reason, if known; if the papers be sent for three months after such notice, you may sell them for the postage or so much of it as can be had for them, unless the publisher shall pay it."

NOMINATING CONVENTION FOR SENATOR AND REPRESENTATIVE.—At a meeting of the whigs of Wood county, held at Perrysburg on the 24th of June, the following resolution was adopted:

Resolved, That it be recommended to the whigs of the counties of Shelby, Allen, Hardin, Van Wert, Putnam, Paulding, Williams, Hancock, Henry, Wood and Lucas, to appoint delegates to meet at Defiance, at an early day in the month of August, to make a nomination of some suitable person, as Senator: the delegates of the five last named counties to nominate a Representative.

MONROE, JUNE 22.

A LAUNCH.—On Saturday next, the 24th inst. at 2 o'clock P. M. will be launched at the ship yard in this city, the Lake Erie dredging machine, a vessel now being built by Mr. Howard, upon a new and improved plan, of which he is the patentee.

Mr. Howard, as we understand, engages that this machine, moving by steam power, shall be so constructed as to raise one hundred and fifty tons of earth per hour, from the bottom of the lake or river, and at the same time empty it into scows, prepared for its reception and removal. And those best acquainted with Mr. Howard, as a gentleman of science, judgement and experience, entertain no doubt respecting the successful accomplishment of his undertaking.

This machine, with its appendages, intended for the general use and benefit of the harbors of the Lake, is built at the expense of the general government, and is estimated to cost about \$20,000. It will probably be ready for operation about the first of August next.

Mr. Howard, as we also understand has recently launched, at the same yard another dredging machine, built for the waters of the Maumee, where it will prove very beneficial in its operation.—Times.